

DRAFT
Shillingford St George Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall,
Shillingford St George on
Monday 13th January at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr P Wareham (Chair), Cllr J Taylor (Vice-Chair), Cllr P Barwell,
Cllr C Dummett, Cllr J Parrott, Cllr G Stephens, Maureen Adams (Clerk)
Cllr Kevin Lake, PCSO Saul Bunce and two members of the public

001/25 Welcome and Apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Cllr Alan Connett (DCC).

002/25 Declarations of Interest from Members / Dispensations - none.

003/25 Open Forum - For public views on items on this agenda – no comments made.

004/25 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2024 should be signed as a true record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

005/25 Matters Arising

The Chairman reported that the quotation from Highways for the Shillingford Lane signs had been accepted and that Kenn PC had agreed to share the costs. He also thanked Cllr Dummett for drafting and submitting a report of the November meeting to Country News which was included in the December/January issue. The Chairman proposed that the order of the agenda be adjusted as Cllr Lake was due at another meeting, this was agreed.

Lower Brenton Planning Application – Landfill

A member of the Residents Against the Landfill Group gave Councillors an update on the current situation. The Application will be considered by the Development Management Committee on 5th February 2025. Andy Hill the Case Officer is currently preparing his report for the Committee. An Agenda will be published eight days before which it is hoped will confirm the venue for the meeting and the number of people able to speak. It is crucial that a Councillor from Shillingford PC speaks in order to represent the community and local residents. The presentation has to be a maximum of three minutes in length, should be in line with comments already submitted by the PC and based on the Recommendation Report. It was agreed that Cllr Stephens should speak on behalf of Shillingford PC, Cllr Parrott will also speak on behalf of Teignbridge District Council. RATL will help with the preparation of the presentations.

006/25 Reports/updates Cllr Lake/Cllr Parrot TDC, Police

Cllr Lake assisted the PC by contacting Highways about the Shillingford Lane signs and South West Water about a leak in Manstree Road. He was pleased to hear that the quotation for the signs has been received and accepted and the leak in Manstree Road has been repaired.

Cllr Lake's Community Fund has now been exhausted for this financial year. Online applications can be made again from April 2025.

In connection with the Lower Brenton Planning Application, Cllr Lake said that written reports can be submitted and there can be communication with DMC members prior to the meeting on 5th February.

Cllr Lake has contacted Teignbridge and Devon County Council regarding Parking in St George's Terrace but has not yet received a response. Cllr Taylor reported that the situation has not yet been resolved with residents complaining there is no space for them to park.

Cllr Lake mentioned the Government's Devolution proposals. There was an emergency TDC meeting last week. DCC has cancelled planned elections in view of the announcement as they are very expensive. All District Councils would disappear and Cllr Lake expressed concerns that rural areas would lose out as a result. Parish and Town Councils will remain.

Cllr Lake left the meeting at 8.35pm

Cllr Parrott believes that Devolution will go ahead. The Leader of TDC Cllr Richard Keeling intends to work with other District Councils to come up with a strategy to counter DCC's proposal for a single Unitary Council which would be too big. Devon may be split into two Unitary Councils but nothing has been decided. Devolution could mean wider roles for Town and Parish Councils.

The Teignbridge Budget 2025/26 is currently going through, Cllr Parrott recommended that Councillors should read TDC Newsletter and complete the Budget Survey. He also drew their attention to the dates of the TDC Planning Forums next month.

Community Fund – Cllr Parrot still has some funds available for the current year with more available from April.

PCSO Saul Bunce mentioned two crimes reported in Shillingford in December. The Chairman thanked him for the time he spends in our Community.

Councillors reported fly-tipping of a TV in the field by the church path, this has been cleared by the landowner.

005/25

Matters Arising Continued

Emergency Plan update Cllr Taylor has been looking into developing an Emergency Plan for the Parish and felt it should be based on the most likely issues that could arise. It was noted that Country News already publishes a list of useful emergency numbers and Facebook is used as an information exchange.

Annual Parish Meeting – May It is hoped that this will take the form of a Celebration of Shillingford with the various groups that meet in the Parish invited to attend combined with information and discussion about developing a Neighbourhood Plan. Further planning will be required. It was agreed that this should be held separately from the Annual Parish Council Meeting as both are currently planned for 12th May. A different date for the APCM will be agreed. Cllrs Parrot and Barwell will meet with TDC soon to gather more information on the support and finance available as it is a big undertaking which includes a Referendum. Cllr Parrot hopes to report back to the PC at the March meeting.

VE Day Anniversary A cream tea afternoon on 11th May is planned to celebrate the occasion.

May Cluster Meeting A date for this is still awaited.

007/25

Report from the Chairman

Feedback from Meet the Leader of DCC event 26.11.24

Representatives of Parish and Town Councils were invited to meet the Leader of DCC. The Chairman reported that there were only around 15 representatives present and it was interesting to meet them but felt on the whole that the event was uninspiring with a lack of vision and future strategy for Parish Councils. The Leader spoke about past DCC achievements, future plans and the government plans for Devolution.

008/25

Parish Matters

Parking in St George's Terrace Residents' concerns have been raised with TDC and DCC by Cllr Lake. Residents have previously declined the offer of a permit scheme.

Any other matters reported by Councillors Councillors discussed the most effective positioning of the two speed signs. There are no plans to increase the number of signs currently.

009/25

Parish Council Meeting 10th November 2025

The change of date to 3rd November was agreed.

010/25

Planning Applications – none.

011/25

Planning Applications discussed since last meeting

24/01998/PN Location: SHILLINGFORD - Barton Farm, Shillingford Abbot

The Councillor who visited the site reported that this application was likely to be replaced with a further application so no comment was made to TDC.

012/25

Planning Decisions – none.

013/25

Finance Update & Expenditure for Approval

Bank Reconciliations for November and December were noted and signed

Past and future payments were noted.

014/25

Budget update to end of December – noted.

015/25

Draft budget for 2025-26 and Precept Request

The draft budget was approved and a Precept of £5,200 will be requested from TDC.

016/25

.gov.uk – progress

The quotation from Parish Council Websites was approved. A new Shillingford PC website and email addresses with the .gov.uk domain will go ahead.

017/25

Clerk's Correspondence

The PC's donation to Country News has been acknowledged.

018/25

Public Discussion

A comment was made that checking on vulnerable people during power cuts or bad weather should be included in the Emergency Plan and provision should be made for those not online with contact numbers easily available in case of need. The Chairman mentioned that Open Door Cafe is used by older members of the community and would be a good way of keeping people informed. It was suggested that the Emergency Plan should be kept simple. With regard to the website, double checking what is included was advised as any add-ons may be expensive. It was felt that the speed sign in Shillingford Abbot is noticeably effective.

019/25

Chairman's Remarks

The chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.52pm

020/25

Date of Next Meeting – 10th March 2025

_____ Chair _____ Date